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The man who goes into a thing with a swelled head always comes out with a sore one.



# INSURANCE

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MERRY CHRISTMAS, free from unnecessary worry, be sure that your house, furniture, etc., is it. protected by an adequate Fire Insurance Policy.

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## THE PECULIAR SNAIL.

# This Creature Can Live Without Air. Water and Nourishment.

The common snall has lungs, heart and a general circulation and is in every respect an air breathing creature. sidered the essential to existence in all creatures supplied with lungs.

Leppert says, "To all organized creatures the removal of oxygen, water, nourishment and heat causes death to When that statement was made he did not appear to consider the snail as one among the great host of "organized beings," for the experiments made by Professor Spallanzani prove that any or all the usual life conditions can be removed in its case without terminating its existence or in any way impairing its functions.

It is a fact well known that the common land snall retreats into his shell on the approach of frosty weather in the fall and that the opening or mouth of the shell is hermetically sealed by a secretion which is of a silky texture and absolutely impervious to air and water. In this condition it is plain that he is deprived of three out of the four elements of life mentioned by Leppert-viz, air, water and nourish-

### AMERICAN WOMEN.

## A Phase of Their Housekeeping That

Surprises Englishwomen. A favorite fling of the French at the English has always been that the lat-Englishwoman has called American: "a nation of housekeepers." During a visit to this country she was struck by the fact that so many American of means and refinement elther "do their own work" or actively superintend the domestic arrange-ments, taking a pride in this duty.

Our friend was surprised to learn "an American woman will spend the forenoon in cooking or dusting or cleaning, then dress herself like a duchess and sally forth to the meeting of a fashionable club where she is, to read a learned paper, like as not, or else call a carriage and make a round of social calls. And her standing does not seem to be impaired in the least by the fact that during part of the day she has done the work of a menia nor has it affected her own personal attractiveness.

No other woman has done so much as the American to emphasize the dignity of labor.-Housekeeper.

## SAILORS' TROUSERS.

Wide From the Knees Down. A sailor's trousers often give rise to great deal of ridicule by reason of their bagginess and wideness from the knees down. No one troubles to think that they may have been made in that way for some special purpose or other. Jack tars naturally have so much to do with water that it is almost to be wondered that for working purposes they are not supplied with knee breeches, in which they would be able to paddle about without danger of damaging the leg portion of their nether garments. As this innovation has not taken place, the trousers are made very baggy so that they can be easily turned up well out of the water when work in the water has to be done. Were they provided with trousers of the same width all the way down the leg they would find it difficult to turn them up far enough without at the same time impeding their actions owing to the compression that would be caused .- London Stand-

Nora was a treasure of a servant. ore, Philadelphia, New York, east- whose habit of speech was often indiern cities. Richmond, Norfolk, Vir- rect, but was frequently picturesque and unexpectedly expressive. evening "the master" was sitting in the library when the doorbell rang. Nora answered it, and on her return through peake and Ohio Ry., leaving Louis- the hall "the master" inquired who it

"It was a young man, sor," replied

"Well, what did he want?" was the "Oh, he was just lookin' for the

A Russian Scare In Australia.

"Russian scares" were at one time common in Sydney and Melbourne. Once, when Australia was not yet connected with the old world by telegraph, a mail steamer from London beat the record in smart passage, and to sig-nalize the event she fired off all her guns as she advanced up the harbor of Melbourne. But the Melbourne authorities misconstrued this demonstration and, feeling sure that the Russians were really coming at last, promptly mobilized all their military and naval resources before they discovered their

A Changed Woman. "Well, well," said the returned traveler, "and so you are married now! It seems only yesterday since you left

school. How time does fly!"
"Yes," replied Mrs. Youngley, "only a short time ago I never clipped any-

# Not Too Blind.

Angelina-Oh, dear! The diamond in my engagement ring has got a flaw in it. Edwin-Take no notice, darling. Love should be blind, you know. Angelina-Yes, but it hasn't got to be

The hardest thing to find is an hon-Fire, Life, Accident, Liability INSURANCE est partner for a swindle.—Boston Trueheart Building. Phone 199. News Bureau.

## THE CURVED BALL.

# It is the Atmosphere Which Causes Its Eccentric Shoots.

Most any ten-year-old youngster can curve a ball, even though he does not know why he can do so except that This notwithstanding, he can live on the leather must be held in a certain indefinitely without inhaling the least way. Possibly a half dozen of the atom of air, that which is usually con- major league twirlers know something about the science of the curve, but comparatively few understand why they can produce their "benders." The Scientific American gives the following as the scientific explanation of the matter:

"The pitcher in the field tells us that the ball curves because he gives it a twist, but scientifically this will not do. Why will the twist make the curve? If a ball were thrown in a certain direction and if the force of gravitation were not at work the ball would continue on in a straight line forever Some force of resistance is then at work when a ball is made to deviate in a curve from its straight course. If a feather is dropped in a vacuum in an exhausted receiver of an air pump it will drop like a shot, but if it is dropped out in the air it will go down ir regularly and slowly, shifting from side to side.

"It is the atmosphere which causes the ball to curve. Bearing in mind that the atmosphere is a compressible elastic gas, we find that when the ball leaves the hand of the pitcher with a rapid rotary motion it 'impinges upon a continuous elastic cushion,' and this moderate resistance, or friction, changes its course in the direction which is given to the rotary motion ter are a nation of shopkeepers. An Take an outshoot of a right handed pitcher, for instance. He impresses upon the ball a rapid centrifugal rotary motion to the left, and the ball goes to the left because the atmosphere, compressible and elastic, is packed into elastic cushion just ahead of the ball by the swift forward and rotary motion, and the friction, which is very great in front of the ball, steers it in the direction which it is turning."

## A NOTABLE MEETING.

# Rights" In 1701.

The first recorded public meeting in the interest of "woman's rights" was held in the town of Medford, Mass., in 1701. The gallery of the church was occupied by the young unmarried peoof the congregation, one side and one half the front gallery being given to the young men, the other side and the other half being given to the young women. But in the seating in this eventful year the young men were given the entire front of the gallery as well, and the young women were only allowed one side of the gallery.

Then it was that things began to happen. Treatment !'ke this wasn't to be tolerated even for a moment. The blood of the future mothers of the Revolution was fully aroused, and the young women made such an uproar and commotion that it speedily became a town matter, and a town meeting was called to restore to them their

rights in half of the front gallery. The young men of the day were bitterly opposed to extending any new privileges to women, and the fight extended beyond Medford. Shortly after the introduction of "pues" into the churches, by which familles were separated from the remainder of the congregation, the selectmen of the town of Newbury gave permission to a group of young women to build a "pue" in the gallery of the church upon their own side of the house. This extension of privilege was resented by the young bachelors to such a degree that they an entrance and hacked the pew pieces. For this act of sacrilege the young men of Newbury were fined \$10 each and sentenced to be whipped or pilloried. But they were manly enough to confess their folly and ask pardon, so this part of their punishment was omitted. So you see the "woman's rights" movement isn't a modern one .-Boston Herald.

# The Real Shillalah.

The shillafah, accounted Ireland's national weapon of defense, was original on blackthorn stick, but in modern times it has been replaced by wrong number, sor." - Lippincott's the more wiry ash sapling. The rea shillalah is a young shoot of the sloe shrub or blackthorn pulled by the root from the crevice of some rock. After being trimmed it is placed in the smoke of turf peat, which softens the hard fiber, and when it has reached a condition as pliant as rubber it is straight ened. When cooled in the air it comes as strong and firm as iron. The trimming process is then continued and when it is desired to make a particularly handsome weapon the spus so effective in a melee or faction fight, are ornamented with small brass nails.

Miss Violet had made a rapid tour of the European continent and found little to impress her, either favorably or

"You say you saw all you wanted to of Italy," said a friend on Miss Violet's return to her native heath in Kansas. "What did you think of the

"Don't talk to me about it," said Miss Violet briskly. "I'd rather have a good dish of plain American macaroni baked with cheese any time.'

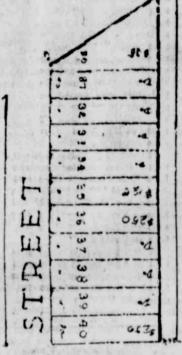
Jack-Hello, old man! Awfully glad to see you. Here, take off that coat and put on this smoking jacket and make rourself comfortable. Dick-Deuce take it! Do you mean to insinuate that ! ton't feel comfortable in a dress suit?

Simplicity has always been held to te a mark of truth. It is also a mark of genius .-- Schopenhauer.

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# ODD CHINESE CUSTOM.

### It Is Etiquette to Belittle Oneself and One's Services.

quires that one who has performed a meritorious service should belittle it, and one who has been selected for honors should declare himself unworthy. Who can imagine an American officeholder writing such a letter of acceptance as this, which the biographer of Li Hung Chang quotes from Tseng Kwo Fan, appointed viceroy of Nan-

"Being of no ability and having notwithstanding been intrusted with the most important duties, I have, as I tottered along, failed to do anything

reprobating me for my worthle

As it happened, this was from or of the most honest and best beloved Chinese who ever governed Nankin and was almost worshiped by the peo ple of the province.

# THE WET TABLECLOTH.

The understeward in setting the ta ble poured a half glass of water on the fruit on the puddle he had made. He made another puddle and placed on it the carafe. On a third puddle he placed

"Why do you spoil the cloth with all that water?" asked a passenger. "Because the weather's rough, sir,"

said the steward, and then, making an other puddle, he went on: "We stewards on ocean liners must

have a number of tricks. "One of our tricks is to set the heavy dishes upon wet spots. If we were to set them on dry spots in the ordinary way they would slide to and fro with

cloth is wetted they don't slide. They adhere to the wet place as though glued to it. learns is to set a stormy weather table

-to spill water on the cloth at each place where a heavy dish is to stand. This water serves its purpose thoroughly, and it doesn't look bad, either, for the dish covers it. No one knows of the wet spot underneath."-New York Press.

# Beggars In England.

Beggars who feign diseases are no new thing in the streets of London They existed in Charles IL's time, only then the beggar was called a "ruffler, a "huff" or a "shabbaroon." If he was deaf and dumb he was called a "dum merer." The woman who sung hymns and led borrowed children by the hand was called a "clapperdozen." Vagrancy is no new thing, though it practically did not exist in mediaeval times. It was when the cities ceased to be confined within their own walls and long before the days of policemen that the people got beyond the control of the aldermen and their officers and vagrancy became a regular profession. The first English law against beggars was made by Henry VIII., who gave licenses to beg to the old and impotent and ordered that all other beggars should be whipped and sent back to their parishes.

sit down in my skin, but I can't in these trousers."

cago a man in the general Chicago of fice has kept an account of the number of different ways the word Chicago is spelled. Recently the record showed 197 different ways. Some ripe scholar in Finland sent a letter to his brother and spelled the name of the Garden Zizzazo. Still another foreigner possibly with a sinister motive, spelled the word Jagjago. Hipaho, Jajijo, Scheechacho, Hizage and Chachicho are also prime favorites.

hole." said the kindly host to his friend who had suddenly disappeared, in the course of a stroll through the grounds. into a pit full of water. The friend climbed out and shook himself. "It doesn't matter," he said cheerily, found it."-London Globe.

"Guess he is all right. He has plucked everybody in this neighbor-

In China, as in Japan, custom re

"When some years ago I went to Shangtung I did not succeed in subduing the Nienfei, but returned to Nan-kin and was ever after ashamed of myself. Last year I was graciously nominated viceroy of Chili, but I made unsuitable appointments, mis managed the army and failed to do any good for the Yellow river. I tremble as I think of my blunders, and in consequence I am overwhelmed by the gracious order which directs me to resume my former important post and thus displays your majesty's confidence in me instead, as would be just, of and dismissing me."

# It Puzzled the Ship's Passenger Until It Was Explained.

the butter dish, and so on

not be merely good waiters-we must be good wet weather waiters. And we

every lurch of the ship. But if the

"One of the first things a steward

# More Than Skin Tight.

quite a dandy in his younger days, once ordered a pair of trousers from his tailor, and as the fashion then was to wear tight nether habilaments he emphatically demanded that this particular pair be skin tight. In due time the trousers were sent home and tried on, whereupon the senator sent for the proceeded to open fire. "What in the blankety blank blank have you done with these trousers?" he demanded. "You told me to make them skin tight, sir." faltered the tailor. "Yes; but, by the great horn spoon, you overdid it," roared the senator. "I can

# How Chiengo In Spelled.

## He Found It. "I meant to have told you of that

## Proved Himself. "That Hustly seems like a plucky

hood."-Detroit Free Press.

# Loal Go. Pittsburg

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